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INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State

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SUBJECT: GREEK COUP

REF: LONDON 8763

JOINT STATE - USIS MESSAGE.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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1. APRIL 26 LONDON PRESS ACCOUNTS OF GREEK SITUATION CENTERED ON SIGNS OF COMPROMISE BETWEEN KING AND COUP LEADERS ZICVES RENDEL REPORTED KING BELIEVED TO HAVE OBTAINED ASSURANCE NEW CONSTITUTION WOULD BE WORKED OUT. ACCORDING RENDEL, COL. PAPADOPOULOS EMERGING AS REAL BRAINS BEHIND COUP. GUARDIAN'S WALL STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF USG ATTITUDE. GREEK PEOPLE FIND HARD TO BELIEVE AMERICANS DID NOT SOMEHOW SUPPORT THE COLONELS. IF AMERICANS NOT BEHIND COUP, PEOPLE ARGUE, WILL USG USE ITS POWER TO BREAK NEW REGIME?

2. KING'S STATEMENT VARIOUSLY INTERPRETED BY RENDEL AND WALL IN APRIL 27 PAPERS. FORMER READS STATEMENT AS INDIRECT ENDORSEMENT OF COUP. WALL DESCRIBES IT AS "CLEVERLY AMBIGUOUS"; CONTAINING NOTHING THAT CONDONES COUP LEADERS ACTIONS. AFTER INTERVIEW WITH MININT PATAKOS, WALL DOUBTS KING WILL SUCCEED IN PERSUADING ARMY CABINET MEMBERS TO BRING SOME RESPECTED POLITICIANS INTO GOV'T

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3. GUARDIAN EDITORIAL ADVOCATES DIPLOMATIC PROTESTS AND REVIEW OF GREECES QUALIFICATIONS FOR NATO MEMBERSHIP. "UNLESS THE WEST MAKE ITS THOROUGH DISAPPROVAL OF THIS LATEST TOTALITARIAN SUCCESS THE OPPOSITION TO IT, ALREADY BEWILDERED, WILL LOSE HEART." BRUCE
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